

The **Converted
Catholic
Magazine**



MEDIATOR AND SAVIOUR

THE STORY OF AN EX-PRIEST

Papal Murder in Croatia

CATHOLIC ATROCITIES IN MEXICO

THE FUTURE OF SPAIN

THE POPE IS ALWAYS 'RIGHT'

December, 1945

THE CONVERTED CATHOLIC MAGAZINE

EDITED BY FORMER ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS

"When thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren."—Luke xxi:132.

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Vol. 6 (New Series)

DECEMBER, 1945

No. 10

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The Converted Catholic Magazine

Edited by Former Catholic Priests

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Vol. 6 (New Series)

DECEMBER, 1945

No. 10

MEDIATOR AND SAVIOUR

"And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the Lord; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation."—Isaiah 25:9.

CHRISTMAS recalls the fact that the Saviour of the world was born nearly two thousand years ago. That Saviour has been revealed but not accepted; other mediators instead have been invented and have cast into the shadows the unique majesty of the Son of God. As Quesnel, noted Jansenist writer declared: *"Angels will always win the day over Jesus Christ despised and crucified, if the choice of a mediator between us and God is left to the vanity of the human mind."*

One of these is Mary, the very mother of Jesus in the flesh. By the dogma of her "Immaculate Conception," proclaimed on December 8, 1854, another Mary, not the Mary of Scripture, has been exalted to a pinnacle overshadowing the preëminence of Christ in everything that is His right and to which He was exalted by the Spirit of God. By this Mary the Lord of Glory is made debtor to the flesh and the real Mary has lost her identity with mankind.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Mary of Nazareth is mentioned as sharing the genealogy of Jesus with four other women: Tamar, the sinner who, through the unmerited favor of God, was given a place in the royal lineage of the Saviour; Rachab the harlot, who by faith perished not; Bath-sheba the unnamed, weak and backslidden; and Ruth, "a virtuous woman" who, not by her own goodness, however, was admitted into the commonwealth of Israel. Mary, the real and lowly Mary of Scripture, not the fictional Mary of the "Immaculate Conception" and the "Mother of God" that the Roman Catholic church has invented, in her own words tells us how she rejoiced in having kinship with these: *"My spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For He hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden."*

With this Mary of Scripture all redeemed souls in turn find kinship. And with her they can sing: Oh marvelous grace of Him who regards our low estate! Oh superabounding grace that those who do the will of God may be His brother, His sister, His mother! Amazing grace of the Saviour that transforms sinners into saints, highly favored of the Lord and forever called blessed!

EDITORIAL NOTES AND COMMENTS

THE POPE IS ALWAYS RIGHT

THE BEST EXAMPLE of the tyranny and confusion of words is to be found in the use of the words Rightist and Leftist. Until the defeat of Fascism everything that had to do with the Right in economics, politics, and religion was right in the eyes of the Catholic church, and every tendency to the Left was wrong and of the devil. The monopoly of the Right by fascists, reactionaries, and Jesuit Catholicism was so extensive that anyone who supported them got widespread assurance that he was on the side of the angels. Even now, despite Soviet Russia's rise to international recognition and despite the degradation of Fascist countries—not to mention the sudden shift to Leftism of the British House of Commons—Leftism has not entirely lost its connection with something that is opprobrious, evil and sinister.

Our word *sinister*, in fact, is only Latinized English for 'left-handed,' and was taken over from the theologians who put all those destined for heaven on God's right hand and those condemned to hell on his left, according to *Matt. 25:33*. Thus, the epithet 'left-footer' is used by Roman Catholics, especially among the Knights of Columbus, to designate a Protestant. In the Catholic press, all opposed to Roman Catholic aims and teachings in political and social matters are dubbed Leftists or 'Lefties' and are placed on the side of the devil. Franco, of course,

is a Rightist and on the side of the angels, as is everything and everybody that supports the policies of the Pope, whether in his fight against Russia or for State support of parochial schools.

Thus the Pope will always be Right, and will never be found on the side of the masses of the common people who, in the words of the present Pope Pius XII last March 11, "*use their power to the detriment of justice and the rights of others.*"



THE FLYING ARCHBISHOP

ARCHBISHOP SPELLMAN of New York lost no time in getting to Tokyo after the surrender of the Japanese. He arrived in Yokohama from Korea on September 12, after a far-flung tour of the Pacific bases of Guam, Saipan, Okinawa and others. It seems more than coincidental that it was not long after his arrival at General MacArthur's headquarters that the barrage of pleas for a "soft peace" for the Japanese began, not only from the Japanese themselves, but from Catholic missionary priests and other Americans in Japan, plus plans to cut the U. S. Army of Occupation down to 60,000, a mere eighth the size planned on up to a few weeks previous.

There are some who have noted this and remembered that the atmosphere also changed in Italy and Germany after Archbishop Spellman flew into those countries in the wake of our conquer-

ing armies. Soon after his arrival in Italy, the Catholic press in Rome and America began putting the blame on America for the wrecked condition of that defeated Fascist country. The recent scandal over the placing of pro-Nazi Catholics in control of Bavaria, for which General Patton was fired from his command of the U. S. Third Army, is too well-known to need further elaboration. This astute prelate of the Roman church has been flying all over the world from Pope to prince and president, and has been busy plotting and planning the advancement of his church's policies.

The irony of it all is that Archbishop Spellman has been able to accomplish these world-wide missions for the Vatican under the false title of "*Military Vicar of the Armed Forces of the United States*," and at public expense!

The strange part of it all was that, except for Mr. Laski's few but fearless words over the radio in condemnation of the Vatican, none of the speakers at the rally made any mention of the Catholic church, despite the fact that to treat of Franco and his regime without mention of the Catholic church is similar to the proverbial discussion of Hamlet without the Prince of Denmark. The actor Frank Fay, a Catholic, went so far as to demand an investigation by Actors' Equity Association of five Broadway actors and actresses who took part in the rally on charges that they "were entirely in accord" with the attack on Catholicism made by Mr. Laski. So preposterous was Mr. Fay's demand that the five Equity members filed counter-charges against him and had him brought up for trial and censure by the Association.

Mr. Laski's broadcast merely made passing reference to one or two well-known facts concerning the Vatican and Spain. In one place he asked: "*Would a Spanish monarchy be likely to prevent the Roman Catholic church in Spain from remaining a rich monopolist at the expense of mass poverty?*" It was to this that Catholic leaders took violent exception, and the American Broadcasting Company appealingly allotted special time over its network on October 8 to Edward T. McCaffrey, national commander of the Catholic War Veterans, to reply to Mr. Laski. In true Jesuitical style, Mr. McCaffrey twisted the whole matter to make it appear that Mr. Laski, "*when he attacked the Vatican he attacked all religion*." In a further effort to scare Protestants and Jews, he said, accord-

MR. LASKI AND THE VATICAN

AN UNNECESSARY FUSS was raised by actor Frank Fay and the Catholic War Veterans over Mr. Harold Laski's statement regarding the Catholic church broadcast from London to the Spanish Refugee Appeal rally at Madison Square Garden in New York last September 24. Laski said that the Vatican was allied with Franco and his oppression of the Spanish people. The extra publicity it caused did more than the rally itself to recall to Americans the shameful part played by the Vatican in the tragedy of the Spanish people under Franco.

ing to a lengthy report of his broadcast in the N. Y. Times of October 9: "He wasn't firing only at Catholicism—he was firing at every religious belief." McCaffrey also unjustly compared the occurrence to what happened in Germany and Russia.

It is an old trick of the Jesuits to make every criticism of Vatican politics appear as an attack on religion in general. It is to be hoped that no good Protestant or Jew will be led to think, as Mr. McCaffrey intended to imply, that *because the Vatican is justly attacked for its alliance with Franco, Protestants and Jews must therefore back up the Vatican, and even approve its part in helping Franco oppress the Spanish people.*

NUNS AS PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS

IN NORTH DAKOTA there is no law that prohibits nuns who are public-school teachers from wearing their religious garb while teaching school. In answer to a protest on the matter by a delegation from Solen, N. Dak., Arthur E. Thompson, State superintendent of public schools, declared last August 23, that "each district must decide for itself if the hiring of members of religious orders as public-school teachers is desirable."

The Minneapolis *Star-Journal* of September 12 reported that as a result of further protest by the residents of Solen, the local school board resigned, and on the following day the same paper reported that the contracts of the entire faculty of the high school and elementary school—consisting en-

tirely of Roman Catholic nuns and a priest—had been canceled.

Roman Catholics cannot justly complain against such protests to prevent the subtle spread of Catholic church influence in the public schools. Nor can they object to the undesirability of Catholic priests and nuns as teachers in public schools, in view of attempts of the Roman Catholic church to sabotage American public-school education. For it is official Roman Catholic teaching that "*Our first duty to the public school is not to pay taxes for its maintenance.*"

CONDITIONS IN SPAIN

FRANCO SPAIN was described "a refuge for the remnants of European Fascists who are plotting conspiracies in Europe and—through the Fascist regimes of Portugal and Argentina—in Latin America," according to a statement of the General Union of Spanish Workers (U.G.T.) presented to the World Labor Conference that opened in Paris last September 25. As reported in PM of that date, the U.G.T. statement further pointed out that:

- "1. More than 250,000 Spaniards, including thousands of women, are undergoing a regime of terror in Franco prisons.
- "2. Since 1939, more than 1,000,000 Spaniards have been killed by Franco and the Falange.
- "3. No Spanish citizen can get employment unless he produces a certificate that he attends church.
- "4. The Catholic church in Spain supports Franco's reign of terror."

It was also revealed that from 1940 to 1945, Franco Government expenditures for war preparations rose from 2,906 million pesetas to 6,813 million, and that the annual subsidies for the government Fascist party, called the *Falange*, increased in the same period from 10,000,000 to 192 million pesetas. It was also charged that "a powerful German Nazi Party exists in Franco Spain, supported by the Spanish *Falange*." Besides this, there is also an important group of the French Fascist militia in Spain, a considerable group of Belgian Fascists headed by Leon Degrelle, and an Italian Fascist group, including General Mario Roatta who escaped from Rome, by Vatican connivance, at the moment when he was to be judged as a war criminal and later escaped recapture in North Italy through obstruction of the Partisans by the Allied Military Mission.

SUPPORT FOR PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS

OPPOSITION to the Mead-Aiken bill, S-717, was voted last October 15 by the International Council of Religious Education in Chicago, with appropriate protest by its trustees against this bill that would provide public funds for private and parochial schools. Dr. Roy G. Ross, general secretary, declared, as reported in the N. Y. *Herald Tribune* of October 16, that the Council "believes that, in taking this stand, it represents the general conviction of its constituent agencies against appropriations of public funds for sectarian education." *The Council represents 90 per cent of American Protestantism*

and its chairman is former Minnesota Governor, now Navy Captain Harold E. Stassen.

In New Jersey, on the other hand, the N. J. Court of Errors and Appeals upheld by a vote of 6 to 3 the constitutionality of the parochial school bus law of 1941, which requires boards of education to provide for parochial school pupils the same transportation facilities afforded to pupils of public schools. In September 1944 the N. J. Supreme Court had ruled against the law.

Dissenting against the opinion of the other six judges of the Court of Errors and Appeals, Justice Clarence E. Case declared that "*when public-school facilities, open to children of all faiths, are available, it is not incumbent upon the state to furnish free transportation to children whose parents or guardians elect to send them to sectarian schools.*" Proceeding further, according to the N. Y. *Herald Tribune* of October 16, he correctly stated:

"It is the consensus of the weight of judicial opinion that the 'child benefit' theory is an ingenious attempt to escape constitutional limitations rather than a sound construction of their content and purpose. I conclude that the furnishing of transportation to private or parochial schools out of public money is in aid of such schools and is in violation of constitutional provisions which prohibit such aid or support."

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THE FUTURE OF SPAIN

SINCE FRANCO must go sooner or later, the Roman Catholic church is placing its hopes on the possibility that his Falangist regime may be replaced by the Carlists, who have to this day steadily fought for abolition of religious toleration, re-establishment of the Inquisition, and absolute submission to Pope and King. It was for the realization of this monarchist program—and not so much for the success of Franco's dictatorship principles—that the Carlists fought so fiercely on the side of Franco against the hated Loyalists during the civil war.

The Carlists, in fact, are now among the most outspoken opponents of Franco's Falangist regime. During the San Francisco Conference, which refused admission of Franco's regime into the United Nations Organization, 10,000 members of the Carlist Party gathered together, on April 29, at historic Montserrat Monastery where they openly defied the Falange and called for action to put their own program into effect. After open-air mass outside the picturesque 10th-century monastery, an impassioned sermon was delivered by the Jesuit Father Tura de Mandresa adjuring the assembled Carlists to keep strong faith in their ideals. Repudiating some of the excesses of the Falangists, this Jesuit priest, according to a report from Barcelona to the N. Y. *Times* of that date, declared:

"We have united to tell the World Powers gathered at San Francisco that we represent a vigilant Spain which is neither Falangist nor Communist. We are ready to tell the world we are not liberals, not democrats, nor republicans but legitimists who desire the traditional Catholic Spain of God, country and king."

The priest further urged his listeners "to be prepared for any eventuality,"

and after the sermon about a thousand uniformed Carlist soldiers, representing units from Navarre, Aragon, Catalonia and three Carlist Basque provinces, marched in review before their military and political chieftains.

The first Carlist War—1833 to 1840—was started by the Jesuits who have always been the instigators and directors of the Carlist movement. It was fought against the forces of Liberalism which, in their view, is but an extension of the Protestant heresy, against which Spain in the past has battled so ferociously. The essence of Carlism is well put in the following phrase by the scholarly Gerald Brenan in his book, *The Spanish Labyrinth*: "One flock, one earthly shepherd [the Pope], one monarch, one empire, one sword." It stands for the Catholic church's idea of 'order,' and 'respect for the hierarchies.' It claims to oppose *despotism*, while favoring an *absolutism* in which the powers of the king are limited only by natural law and the Catholic church. It insists that all schools and universities be under control of the Catholic church, that no liberty of worship be permitted, and that there be strict censorship of books and of the press. *

The Second Carlist War was an attempt to destroy the First Spanish Republic of 1872. The disgraceful scenes of 1834 were repeated. In the words of Gerald Brenan, p. 210: "*Monks and priests led guerrilla bands, nuns left off their prayers to make cartridges, while the young men of the farms and hamlets, eager to destroy atheists and Liberals, marched and drilled on the hillsides.*" These same scenes were again repeated in 1936 when Franco, with the aid of the Catholic church, set out to destroy the Spanish Republic of 1931. Fortunately, however, in the Car-

* See Brenan's, *The Spanish Labyrinth*, p. 213, Macmillan Co., New York, 1944.

NEW CIRCUMSTANCES



list war the foreign intervention was on the side of the legitimate government. In Franco's war, foreign intervention—that of Mussolini and Hitler—was against the legitimate republican government, while the democracies of Britain and the U. S. did nothing under cover of their pretended policy of 'non-intervention.'

If Spain is ever to be given a chance to become democratic and its poor oppressed masses the opportunity to be free and prosperous, no church-backed regime should be allowed to take over after Franco goes. A Catholic monarchy backed by the Carlists would be a mere change of scenery, leaving condi-

tions no better than under Franco's blood-stained Fascist regime. It seems incredible that the United Nations should have gone to so much trouble to obliterate Fascism and Nazism from central Europe and at the same time will do nothing to eradicate it from Spain.

CHRIST'S MISSION and its work for ex-priests depends for support on voluntary contributions from its friends. It is a religious corporation of the State of New York and contributions are deductible from income taxes.

For those who wish to remember our work in their wills we give the following legal *Form of Bequest*:

CHRIST'S MISSION— FORM OF BEQUEST

I give and bequeath to Christ's Mission, incorporated in the State of New York, the sum of \$ to be applied to the uses and purposes of said Mission.

SUNDAY MEETINGS at Christ's Mission are held every Sunday at 3:30 P.M. in the auditorium at 229 West 48th Street under the directorship of Rev. A. Caliandro. Topics of interest on the Roman Catholic question are discussed at these meetings, and the needs of all our readers remembered in prayer.

"YEA though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. . . Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever." (Psa. 23:4, 6)

CATHOLIC ATROCITIES IN MEXICO

R EPORTS of Roman Catholic atrocities against Protestants in Mexico have increased to an alarming degree, and the details are reminiscent of the accounts of Nazi brutalities in the horror camps of Belzen and Dachau. In the last issue of our magazine we reported the story of the Methodist pastor, his wife and a member of his church who were beaten to death in the village of Santiago near Mexico City, last May 27, by a religiously inflamed mob of Roman Catholics who later burned several homes of Mexican Protestants. Following is an even more brutal story of Catholic atrocities against the Protestants of the entire village of San Andres Timilpan, in the state of Mexico. It is an eyewitness account by the correspondent of the *Christian Century*, dated from Mexico City last August 29, and begins as follows:

"In San Andres Timilpan, a village in the state of Mexico, the corpse of a Protestant child was recently dug up by a Catholic mob two days after burial and thrown away. This is the last chapter in religious persecution in the village. The incident occurred after the local priest, Father Arnulfo Hurtado, had preached a sermon in which he declared that a Protestant child was unworthy of interment in the cemetery and should have been thrown into the river instead. He sternly rebuked Catholics for having permitted the burial of a 'heretic' in a sacred place. The mob did not wait to think, and the corpse of little Catalina Rafael was disposed of in some way that has not yet been discovered by the family."

The story then goes on to tell that the child's father, powerless to resist the mob, went next day to complain to the mayor. On his way a new mob

threatened to lynch him if he persisted in taking legal action. While he was in the mayor's office the mob went "hunting for Protestants." Then the story continues:

"They stoned Taide Jiminez, then dragged her naked through the streets. Mrs. Nicolasa Martinez was brutally beaten, and other Protestant men, women and children were abused. Those who could not escape were rounded up, wounded and bleeding, and herded into the Catholic church, where Father Hurtado was waiting for them, a crucifix in his hands. Under threats and blows the Protestants were urged to kiss the crucifix, repeat Catholic prayers and promise to come to mass in the future — thus giving up their new faith."

The bloody martyrdom of the Protestants in San Andres Timilpan began in 1940 with the destruction of their chapel, houses and property, and the killing of several members by Catholics at the instigation of Father Hurtado. Banished from their homes, the Protestants tried to come back, but each time they have met with new outbursts of violence. All appeals for justice have been useless. "*Red tape, pro-Catholic influence and bribery have prevailed against the Protestant villagers,*" the story says, "most of whom are now living as refugees in Mexico City." Fifty-five of them have remained in the village at the risk of their lives, and the more than 270 men, women and children refugees in Mexico City are crowded into a few rooms afraid to return to their homes. The Evangelical churches in Mexico City are aiding many of them and the laymen's Maranatha Club provides a doctor and medicines. Many, especially babies, have died from malnutrition, and because of the continued

persecution in their village, the number who seek refuge in Mexico City is increasing daily.

It is only from such plain facts that Protestants in the United States may learn what the Roman Catholic church is really like and how it resorts to the most brutal means to force obedience to its beliefs and claims in localities where it has the upper hand and the protection of the police.

Roman Catholic violence is not confined to Mexico and South American countries, but even flares up in parts of the United States in localities where Protestants are in the minority. Protestant Episcopal Bishop Stoney of New Mexico was recently obliged to protest to the Roman Catholic Bishop of El Paso and the Archbishop of Santa Fe because of the vandalism of Roman Catholic boys who broke into and desecrated the Episcopal church of St. Anne's Mexican Mission in El Paso, Texas. *After breaking lights, desks, pictures, candles, altar furnishings, they relieved themselves in the chapel and smeared human refuse over everything. Then, to add insult to injury, they left a Catholic religious magazine with a marked article in which Protestants were branded as "Judases."*

According to *The Witness* magazine of last October 4, Protestant Bishop Stoney was brave enough in his protest to the Roman Catholic bishops to put blame for these and other depredations squarely on the Roman Catholic clergy and hierarchy because of "the spirit of intolerance often preached by them toward other faiths."

'ROBISM'

JEROME N. FRANK, judge of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York, was discovered recently (in his shirtsleeves) writing a magazine article. His subject was "Robism—the Wearing of Robes by Judges." To Mary Braggiotti, reporter of the *N. Y. Post* (July 29, 1945) he explained:

"It is all of a piece with the archaic language we use. It is thoroughly undemocratic, of course. No part of government should be a mystery. The President of the United States doesn't wear any particular gown. It is the bigoted, ignorant fellow that needs the false dignity of a robe."

The Pope and his cardinals, bishops, and priests will not like this. Neither will the God-Emperor Hirohito of Japan. They all depend upon the "false dignity" of their pontifical robes to keep their people in fear and subjection. True religion needs no such disguise.

► NEW YORK CITY newspapers of last Oct. 11 gave front-page space to another victory for Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen when it was announced that Louis F. Budenz, managing editor of the Communist 'Daily Worker,' had renounced Communism and returned to the Catholic faith after instructions from Sheen. He was immediately given a position as professor of economics at Notre Dame University. Msgr. Sheen boasts of having also "converted" Heywood Broun and Henry Ford 2d. Budenz was formerly director of the Catholic Central Verein in St. Louis, Mo., and was obviously "planted" in the Communist party.

► THERE ARE now only 17 Roman Catholics in the British House of Commons, but 48 in the House of Lords.

► **RENEWALS:** Many thousands of subscriptions expire with this December issue of our magazine. If yours is one of them, be sure to renew now! It will save us labor and expense, and assure your receiving all our issues for 1946.

THE STORY OF AN EX-PRIEST

This is the story of Father Juan Estaban Roldán who was converted to Evangelical Christianity after 25 years as parish priest in Bucaramanga, Colombia, and whose body, after his death last March 25, was forcibly taken by the police from the Protestant church and given over to the priest, despite the protests of his sorrowing wife and children.

ONLY IN COUNTRIES where the Roman Catholic church is specially protected by the government and is able to call upon the police to enforce its teachings and practices can the true nature of the Catholic church be understood. Here in the United States and other Protestant countries it acts like the proverbial wolf in sheep's clothing by covering its real aims and teachings under pretense of agreeing with the principles of democracy and religious freedom. In this country, especially at this time, its priests and spokesmen would not dare to act and speak as they do, for instance, in Spain and Latin-American countries. It is their hope and aim, however, to achieve this in America as soon as they gain enough control in high places to make use of the police power.

This is more particularly true with regard to the status of ex-priests who, like Martin Luther and other priest-reformers of old, voluntarily leave the priesthood of the church of Rome and preach the doctrine of salvation through the all-sufficient work of Jesus Christ. The Constitutional guarantee of religious freedom in the United States prevents the molestation of former priests in life and in death. But not so in Catholic countries, where the church can call upon the government to penalize

priests who exercise freedom of conscience. Article six of the Concordat between Mussolini and the Vatican in 1929, for instance, denied employment to any priest who leaves the church. In Spain today under Franco rule, not only is an ex-priest forbidden employment but *not even an ordinary Spanish citizen can get employment unless he produces a certificate from his parish priest that he attends church.*

An illustration of how the Catholic church will hound an ex-priest to his very grave wherever it can safely do so, has recently come to our attention from a Presbyterian missionary in Bucaramanga, Colombia. The case is as follows:

The conversion of Father Juan Estaban Roldán came about one day when he was visiting the local priest of the little town of Ituango in Antioquia. He was then over 50 years of age, and doubtless had been considering the step for many years before. But the climax came on that day in Ituango when Mr. Arthur Douglass, a missionary of the American Presbyterian Board of Missions, arrived in the town to distribute Bibles and other Christian literature. Father Roldán watched the local priest order a policeman to go around and gather up the Protestant Bibles and pile them up in the middle of the public square. With growing resentment he

saw the priest kindle a fire under the books and in the light of the flames threaten his Catholic people who had gathered around that unless they despaired and burned all such "heretical and immoral" books, they themselves would burn forever in the fires of hell.

As far as Father Roldán was concerned, the bonfire did more good than harm, for it burned up all that was left of his loyalty to the Roman Catholic church which he had faithfully served for half a century, as child, student, and priest. He accompanied the local priest back to the rectory and, to the amazement of the latter, removed his clerical collar and told him he could no longer remain in a church that publicly burned the Word of God. He contacted the Protestant missionaries, studied the Bible and settled down as a rural school teacher. Later he married and had a family of five children, one of whom is now an Evangelical school teacher. His exemplary Christian life and conduct greatly edified those around him, and he exerted considerable influence in the country district in which he lived.

In February of this year, at the age of 82, he became seriously ill in the town of Dabeiba. Immediately every effort was made by the local priest to bring him back to the Catholic church before he died. He was visited also by his own Presbyterian pastor, Mr. Noel Ramirez. Just two days before he died, Mr. Ramirez found the priest at his bedside strenuously insisting that the old man confess his sins to him and return to the Catholic church. With all his remaining strength, Roldán answered back: "*I will not confess to you, but to Jesus Christ whose blood cleanses from all sin!*" "But if you want divine grace," the priest insisted, "you must return to the church." In the dying man's defense, Mr. Ramirez turned to

the priest and said: "Divine grace comes only from God through Christ. This is no time to discuss beliefs and sects, but to turn the dying man to Christ alone." Furiously the priest raised his voice and shouted: "No one may interrupt me in my functions," and turning to the dying ex-priest he said: "Are you going to take advantage of your last chance to be saved? Tell me once and for all whether you accept the Roman Catholic faith and absolution for your sins? Be quick about it for I cannot stay any longer." The dying man merely turned, looked at him calmly, and said, "Good-bye!" Frustrated at seeing that further argument was useless, the priest took his hat and said: "Soon your body will be at rest, but your soul will be in hell."

Next day, Roldán sank into unconsciousness and the priest returned to renew his attack, but found the door barred to him. He left saying that all Protestants and their Bibles are but fuel for the flames of hell. In a little while, however, he returned, bringing with him the mayor of the town and some policemen who, in the name of the law, demanded that the door be opened at once. As soon as they entered, they ordered Mrs. Roldán and her children out of the bedroom. Then the mayor went over to the bedside of the unconscious man and asked him, "Do you want to confess?" Though there was no response, he rushed to the door and shouted: "He says yes! Come on in Father Gaviria!" So the priest entered and, under the protection of the policemen, administered the last rites of the church to the unconscious ex-priest. A witness to the scene was a visiting American missionary whom the mayor had ordered out of the bedroom but who had refused to leave.

Next day, March 15, Esteban Roldán, the beloved and converted ex-priest,

passed away at half-past nine in the morning. He died as a true Christian, firm till the end in his hope and saving faith in the all-sufficient work of Jesus Christ. His body was taken to the Presbyterian church where a special service was held before the funeral services at the grave. But at the church door, the police intercepted those who were carrying out the body and said: "We will not allow you to proceed with this burial!"

So all that afternoon, the coffin and two watchers had to remain inside the barred church while a mob outside gathered and shouted for the body of the ex-priest. At about 8 o'clock, one of the watchers left for supper at the pastor's house next to the church. The mayor, taking advantage of the situation, sent a messenger to ask the other lone guard to come out and talk to him as he had something important to say to him. As soon as he was outside the church door, the police rushed in, took the coffin outside and marched with it down the street in triumph to the public square. There they took axes and wrenched the coffin open, took the body out and placed it in a new coffin. Then, headed by the priest, the crowd marched with the body to the Catholic church where a service was kept up till midnight, when the remains were buried in the Catholic cemetery.

Thus was this dauntless ex-priest's body made to do what his soul refused, go backwards. But his soul goes marching on. Those were days of harrowing experience for his wife and children, when the Catholic church triumphed over his lifeless body. Unfortunately it is necessary for the Catholic church, for propaganda purposes, to impress on ignorant people the power of the priest in life and in death, no matter what the desires of the deceased may be nor how much it adds to the anguish of a sorrowing widow and children.

GERMAN BISHOPS AND THE AMG

THE N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE of Sept. 27 revealed the real reason behind the trouble that necessitated the removal of General Patton from his command in Bavaria, where Friedrich Schaeffer, leader of the pro-Nazi Catholic Bavarian People's Party was made Minister-President by Tammanyite Col. Keegan. It carried an important statement of General Walter Bedell Smith, General Eisenhower's Chief of Staff, and himself a Roman Catholic, showing that the trouble was not so much with the Nazis as the Catholics. General Smith declared:

"We can get rid of the Nazis without any trouble at all. But there is a very strong ultra-conservative party in Bavaria, and I say that advisedly, being a Catholic myself. That is the thing that concerns me. That is not an excrescence like the Nazi party, but is deeply rooted in Bavaria, and particularly in the people who for years and years have been governing the party and who are pretty highly respected in Bavaria themselves."

Further confirmation of the trouble that the United States Military Government is having with the Catholic church in Germany was reported in a dispatch from Berlin on October 16, to the N. Y. Post and Chicago Daily News. It bluntly stated that the Roman Catholic hierarchy had protested that "denazification and other occupation policies are too harsh on the Germans." Specifically, the Catholic bishops object to the opening of non-denominational schools. Dr. Johannes Dietz, Catholic bishop of Fulda, wrote to Military Government officials saying that such schools were in "open violation of the rights granted my church by the

Concordat [between Hitler and the Vatican] and the law."

The recent conference of all the German bishops at Fulda demanded the following:

- (1) Importation and distribution of food for the German people.
- (2) Cessation of migration of Germans from Silesia, Pomerania, Sudetenland and East Prussia.
- (3) Arming the German police to protect the people.
- (4) Rapid discharge of war prisoners, especially priests and theological students.
- (5) Return of Catholic church property.

Cardinal Faulhaber of Bavaria is reported as being "deeply distressed over the ousting of Catholic Minister-President Schaeffer who had surrounded himself with prominent Nazis." The Cardinal is quoted as saying that "Schaeffer's replacement by a Social Democrat destroyed in one swoop all the 'good work' of restoring normalcy to Bavaria." The Cardinal also wrote to Gen. Eisenhower requesting the release of five Nazi war criminals and four generals because they were "good churchmen and not thoroughgoing Nazis." Among them is Baron Constantin von Neurath.

The tone of the letters written by the Bishop of Fulda and Cardinal Faulhaber is described as not only indignant, but also threatening. The letter of the Bishop of Fulda actually stated that "the bishops could be most helpful in appealing to the faithful to take a loyal attitude toward those in power, but implied with equal clarity that if the recommendations were not realized, the bishops might find it difficult to offer their good offices in cooperation."

O PAPPY, COME HOME!

► SINCE last January 1 till the end of September nearly 100 U. S. Congressmen—15 Senators and 81 Representatives—had visited the Pope, according to a report from Rome in the N. Y. 'Times' of Oct. 1, which predicted that "before the year's end Pope Pius will have interviewed one in every five United States Congress members." The report described Protestant members as particularly impressed by the Pope's "approachable and winning" way, and told of one such Protestant Representative who, overcome by the Pope's friendliness, threw his arm around his white-robed shoulder and said: "Now, Pope, we want you to come to the United States and visit us. How about it?"



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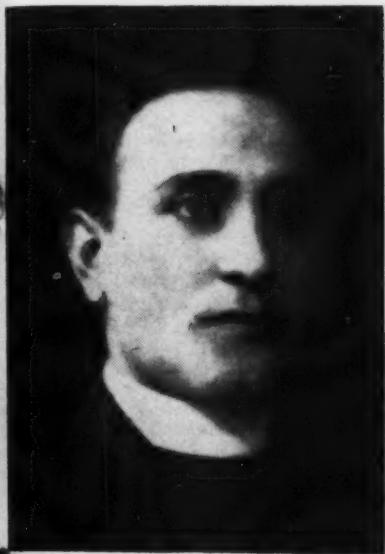
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About Books

STORIES OF THE REFORMATION, by Ruth Gordon Short; 249 pages. Price \$2.50.

A VOLUME of this size could not do justice to the story of even one of the heroes of the Reformation period. Yet Mrs. Short gives us in this attractive work of hers some eighteen concise sketches of colorful characters from that period that was so fruitful of spiritual values.

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Mrs. Short's book of stories is adaptable to both children and adults. Some may find them not completely satisfying because they are so short. This, however, is a good fault nowadays when so many people find most books too long. The author is not unconscious of the limitations in writing the stories of so many magnificent characters that filled a century with their greatness within the compass of less than 300 pages of a book. But they serve as good "appetizers." I doubt if anyone can read her sketches of these outstanding men and their times without clamoring for more.

An excellent book to give your child or friend for Christmas.



THE RISE OF THE TYRANT, by Carl McIntire; Christian Beacon Press, Collingswood, N. J.; 260 pages, \$2.25. A denunciation of economic collectivism.

THE REVOLT AGAINST GOD, by Dr. Rufus W. Weaver; Fleming H. Revell Co., New York; 243 pages, \$2.50. An historical analysis of the influence of culture on Christianity.

[illegible]

CHRIST'S MISSION
PUBLISHERS OF
THE CONVERTED CATHOLIC MAGAZINE
220 WEST 48TH STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

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REVERIES OF A PARSON, by Melville Arthur Shafer; The Norwood Press, Norwood, Mass.; 111 pages, \$2.00. Essays on the ideal life.

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► **THE ENTIRE 25,000 Christians** belonging to the Holiness Church in Japan were imprisoned during the war and **"subjected to tortures and atrocities that resulted in the death of four leaders,"** according to a report of last Oct. 6 from Tokyo to the N. Y. 'Times.' In contrast is the statement in the Catholic 'Register' of last June 3, that Roman Catholics in Japan were not molested, their seminaries were allowed to function, and conscription was not enforced against Catholic students for the priesthood. (See our issue for October, 1943, page 202.)

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PAPAL MURDER IN CROATIA

By J. J. MURPHY

LIBERALS frequently say, "I think the Catholic church should stop playing politics, but, as far as its religious doctrines are concerned, I don't care what it teaches." In separating Catholic dogma from Catholic politics such liberals show that they understand neither the nature nor the aims of the Roman Catholic church. The fact is that Catholic politics stem directly from the basic dogma of the Catholic church that it is "the one true Church" and the sole spokesman of God. From this same premise it is easily deduced that whoever differs from the divine and infallible teachings of the Roman Catholic church is a criminal (whether he realizes it or not) who violates the law of God and undermines the welfare of society. From this conclusion it is a short step to the God-given right of the Catholic church to exterminate such heretics as enemies of the common good. From then on one is led to the conclusion, subtly proved by the Jesuits, that it is lawful to do evil to prevent a greater evil, and that whatever means are needed to crush heresies are holy and justified, whether they be murder, war, or political partnership with sadistic dictators. As Pope Pius XI said, "When it is a question of saving souls or avoiding greater evils, we would find courage to make a deal (*trattare*) with the Devil in person."¹

The teaching that the Catholic church has the right to kill heretics was boldly

re-asserted in the *Tablet*, official newspaper of the Roman Catholic diocese of Brooklyn, N. Y., in its issue of November, 5, 1938, as follows:

"Heresy is an awful crime . . . and those who start a heresy are more guilty than they who are traitors to the civil government. If the State has the right to punish treason with death, the principle is the same that concedes to the spiritual authority the power of capital punishment over the arch-traitor to truth and Divine revelation . . . A perfect society has the right to its existence . . . and the power of capital punishment is acknowledged for a perfect society . . . Now, the Catholic church is a perfect society, and as such has the right and power to take means to safeguard its existence."

THE END JUSTIFIES THE MEANS

It was the "Messianic complex" of the Catholic church that led to its Temporal Power, and other endless plots and intrigues for world power that drenched the world in blood for several centuries. The crusades, the Inquisition, St. Bartholomew's Eve, the Thirty Years' War with its millions of victims, are mere high spots in a career of mass murder. No less an authority than the leading 19th century historian, Catholic Lord Acton, found himself forced to admit that "*there had been a grievous evil in the Catholic church consisting of a practice sanctioned by the theory that much wrong may be done for the sake of saving souls, and this tendency . . . was associated with the Papacy which sanctioned, encouraged and implemented it. . . The Papacy contrived murder and massacre*

¹ *Church and State in Fascist Italy*, by D. A. Binchy, a Roman Catholic, p. 83.

on the most cruel and inhuman scale."² The historian Lecky also points to religious persecution at the hands of the medieval clergy as "an amount of cold, passionless, studied and deliberate barbarity unrivaled in the history of mankind."³

Present-day Catholic theologians teach the very same doctrines by which these medieval murders were justified, and by which others will be justified in the future wherever the Catholic church regains political control. The quotations that follow are from textbooks on dogmatic theology written by two 20th century Cardinals and used today in all Catholic seminaries:

"God not only permits the church to use force, but definitely prescribes it to her. There are no efficacious remedies against heresies but medieval laws."⁴

"But if one considers what a grave matter it is to corrupt the Catholic faith which is based on the authority of God, and if one considers what harm it does to society, he will easily understand that, if traitors or murderers are justly condemned to die, those who publicly undermine the Catholic faith much more richly deserve to be put to death."⁵

Present-day Catholic teaching that advocates the murder of heretics is not a matter of mere theory. It is carried out whenever possible. And it was to make it possible that the Vatican plotted with the Axis powers for world control, as I have shown in a series of booklets on Clerical Fascism in Europe. How this counter-Reformation was

aimed not only at Protestantism and democracy but also at the schismatic religion of the Greek Orthodox Catholics has been proved in articles written for back issues of *The Converted Catholic Magazine*.⁶ The present article shows a new aspect of the Axis-Vatican attack on the Greek Orthodox church, for it treats of that church not in Greece, or the Dodecanesian Islands, or Slovenia, as did three previous articles, but of the Orthodox church in Croatia, a Catholic part of Yugoslavia.

MASS MURDER IN CROATIA

The first publicity given to the murder of members of the Greek Orthodox church at the hands of the Catholic-Fascist government in Croatia appeared in the *N. Y. Times* of January 3, 1942. It quoted the documentary report of the Archbishop of the Orthodox church, made public by the Yugoslav government-in-exile, but discreetly omitted the part played by the Roman Catholic hierarchy:

"According to the Archbishop, the wholesale killings of 180,000 Orthodox Serbs were carried out on orders of Quisling Pavelich and members of the Ustashi . . . Priests' beards were pulled out and their throats cut. In one case a priest was forced to dig the grave for his own son. The son was tortured before his own father's eyes."

My Native Land, a book by Louis Adamic, gives clearer evidence of the part played by the Roman Catholic clergy in these massacres. On page 38 he says: "I shall show in detail later that a large section of the Roman Cath-

² Lord Acton's *Correspondence*, page 54.

³ *Rise and Influence of Rationalism in Europe*, by Lecky. Vol. I, p. 326.

⁴ From the commentary of Jesuit Cardinal Billot on the *Summa Theologica* of Thomas Aquinas, as quoted by the historian G. G. Coulton, p. 88 of *The Death Penalty for Heresy from 1184 to 1921*.

⁵ From Cardinal Lepicier's textbook, *De Progressu et Stabilitate Dogmatis*, Part II, Art. VI.

⁶ Reference is made to the following former articles of this magazine: *Behind the Graeco-Roman Conflict*, May, 1941; *Two Friends of the Pope*, December, 1943; *Persecution of the Greek Orthodox Church*, December, 1944; *Clerical Fascism in Yugoslavia*, February, 1945.

olic priesthood in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, which had been pro-*Ustashi* before the collapse of Yugoslavia, supported the pogroms against the Orthodox Serbians. . . At least two Croatian bishops, including Archbishop Sharich of Sarajevo, were openly pro-*Ustashi*."

The first full exposé of the Roman Catholic murder of Orthodox Christians to reach the magazine world was given by the liberal bi-weekly, *Christianity and Crisis*, published by Reinhold Niebuhr and other liberal Protestants who ordinarily indulge in appeasing Roman Catholicism. In its issue of June 29, 1942, the following open declaration of facts appeared:

"In the present Croatian territory there are five million Roman Catholic Croats, and 1,800,000 Eastern Orthodox Serbs. These latter are now being persecuted in a most cruel manner. Of the Eastern Orthodox

bishops, one has been killed, several have been imprisoned, the others have been forced to leave the country. Of the Orthodox priests a considerable number have been assassinated, many have been imprisoned, the others have been thrown out of the country. Thus this large body of Eastern Orthodox is now without any pastoral guidance, and there are no longer any Orthodox religious services. It is counted that several hundred thousand Orthodox have become victims of the systematic persecution through imprisonment, maltreatment, plunder, and that several tens of thousands have been killed. One of the officials of the Croatian State has formulated the purpose of this policy as the elimination of the Orthodox leadership so that the rest without leaders can be Catholicized, and so that within ten years Croatia will be a Catholic state. . .

"Orthodox officials are being notified that in the Croatian State only those



Serbian priests being hanged in a churchyard by the Ustashi Inquisition

Picture from "Martyrdom of the Serbs."

can remain in service who belong to the Roman Catholic Church.

"Certain Roman Catholic periodicals in Croatia approve of this persecution. Thus the organ of the Archbishop of Sarajevo defends the use of 'revolutionary methods' in the 'service of truth, justice, and honesty,' and states that 'it is a silly idea, unworthy of disciples of Christ, that the struggle against evil could be carried on in a noble manner and with gloves on.'"

The real revelation of the barbarous persecution of the Greek Orthodox Christians at the hands of the Roman hierarchy is revealed in detail in a heavily documented book "prepared and issued by the Serbian Eastern Orthodox church" entitled, *Martyrdom of the Serbs*. It is to a large extent a compilation of first-hand testimony gathered on the actual scene of the crimes by the Committee of Belgrade and official commissions of Orthodox prelates. A preface to this book, published in 1943, was written by the Rt. Rev. William T. Manning, leading Protestant Episcopal prelate in this country. In his opening sentence Bishop Manning says: "I feel it a great honor to be asked to write a foreword for this officially prepared and issued Book of Martyrs of the Serbian Church in Yugoslavia." The rest of the present article will be documented with page references to this book. It should be noted in the quotations that follow that the Roman Catholic church is referred to simply as "Catholic" in contrast to the Greek Catholics of Serbia who are spoken of as the Orthodox or Serb Orthodox. Since the book is concerned with the persecution of Serb Orthodox Christians in Yugoslavia who have been tortured and murdered by the Roman Catholic Croats, also of Yugoslavia, the term Croat is synonymous with Roman Catholic just as Serb stands for the Orthodox Chris-

tians of Serbia or Croatia.

UNION OF CHURCH AND FASCISM

The Fascist organization of Croatia was the *Ustashi*, made up exclusively of Roman Catholics. Apart from the destruction of democratic government and the establishment of a Catholic-Fascist state, its main purpose has been to convert all Serb Orthodox Christians to Roman Catholicism or exterminate them as heretics. The head of the *Ustashi* and puppet ruler of Croatia under Hitler was Ante Pavelich, a Roman Catholic terrorist. Pierre van Paassen in his book *That Day Alone* (p. 483) notes that Pavelich was trained in Catholic Hungary and worked as a trigger man for Mussolini, spending much of his time in Fascist Italy, after the assassination of King Alexander of Yugoslavia, at which time he was received in audience by Pope Pius XI. After Hitler seized Croatia, and Pavelich was about to be sent there to run the puppet government, the N. Y. *Times* told how Pope Pius XII received "in private audience, first, the new king of Croatia, the Italian Duke of Spoleto, just before he took the throne; secondly, the traitorous Ante Pavelich and his Croat delegation." It turned out that the new "king" was afraid even to enter Croatia and Pavelich ruled alone, subject to the guidance of Hitler and the Catholic hierarchy. The *Washington Post* of February 21, 1943, noted that, as in former years, Pope Pius XII had telegraphed Pavelich his cordial wishes for another successful year. Such direct approval of the Pope was widely publicized in Croatia where it greatly strengthened the hold of Pavelich.

Martyrdom of the Serbs (p. 172-4) makes clear that the Catholic church in Croatia established the many thousands of *Ustashi* around a mere nucleus of

"... And seem a saint when most I play the devil."



"And thus I hide my naked villainy,
With old, odd ends, stolen forth of Holy Writ,
And seem a saint, when most I play the devil."

—From Shakespeare's *King Richard III*
Act 1, Scene 3.

specially trained terrorists:

"Certain circles claim that these atrocities in Croatia are the work of a small number of *Ustashi*. This claim is not correct. It is true that Quisling Pavelich brought with him from Italy only about one hundred *Ustashi*. The others were organized in Croatia itself. In the cities they consisted first of all of students of the Gymnasium and schools of higher learning, then men of the merchant and artisan classes, all good and peaceful members of the Croatian Heroes organization. . . A great portion of the Croatian youths in the intermediate and high schools participated most actively in the bloody terror perpetrated by the *Ustashi*

against the Serbs. They were the so-called 'Croatian Heroes,' members of an organization which was founded and led by the Catholic priesthood. After the fall of Yugoslavia the Catholic priesthood was in closest collaboration with the *Ustashi* in the mass sacrificing of the Serbs, and it cannot be said that it was the doings of individuals limited in scope and time. On the contrary, by the number of priests in the towns where the atrocities were committed it may be plainly observed that those priests led that bloody orgy according to an earlier planned system, methodically and with precision."

"The Catholic priesthood in Croatia, Herzegovina, and Dalmatia carried

out an intensive propaganda campaign for the *Ustashi* government. For years so-called Eucharistic Congresses were held, which were religious manifestations only superficially, but in fact were for extremist political purposes."

It is pointed out on page 241 that, the close cooperation between the Catholic church and the *Ustashi* authorities is known, which is also evidenced by the fact that among the *Ustashi* officials there are a great number of Catholic priests."

Beginning on page 174, several detailed examples of priest leadership in the persecution are given. More than a score of priests are named with the caution that these are a mere fraction of the number that led the Catholic mobs. Without choosing from among them I will quote merely the first two that happen to be mentioned. Each is preceded by the name of the city where the clergy won notoriety:

"Sarajevo. Dr. Ivan Saric, Catholic archbishop of Vrh-Bosanski, a fanatical Serbophobe of old, began immediately after the fall of Yugoslavia and the commencement of the anti-Serbian terror to write poems of praise in honor of Quisling Pavelich, lauding his destructive work against the Serbs. The Croatian newspapers of that time were full of his poems of praise. Still stronger was his influence over the direct [terroristic] acts against the Serbs in Bosnia. His right-hand man was the priest of Sarajevo, Father Brale, who was a former *Ustashi* officer and personally and openly led that attack.

"Livno. Father Sreko Peric, a monk of Livno, formerly Catholic pastor at Nis, preached from the altar that all the Serbs should be slaughtered. *After the slaughter he promised to absolve the murderers of their deeds, for murder is not a sin if carried out in the interest of*



ANTE PAVELICH
Nazi Quisling of Croatia

the Catholic church. Several thousand Serbs, men, women, and children were tortured and murdered in the most cruel and beastly manner."

In other parts of this book there are documented accounts of priests who were leading governmental authorities under the *Ustashi* and the chief instigators of the mass murders. Such was the above-mentioned Father Brale of whom it is said on page 49: "*The executive power and authority in Sarajevo were in the hands of Hakija Hadzich and the Catholic priest Brale. . . who was insistent on mass execution of the Serbs.*"

20TH CENTURY INQUISITION

"Conversion or death" was the slogan of the militant Catholic church of Croatia in this 20th century Inquisi-

tion. The report of the *Committee of Belgrade* issued on September 8, 1942, under the heading "The Catholicizing of the Serbian Orthodox People" stated (p. 177) as follows:

"With the first wave of terror the *Ustashi* and the authorities began to force the Serbs to accept the Catholic faith. In this Catholic priests especially distinguished themselves on all sides. The terrorized Serbs gave in here and there in the belief that in this way they would save their lives. . . . Public parades were held on the occasion of conversions. The people were forced to display a certain joy over their 'return to the faith of their fathers.' There were arranged delegations as a sign of gratitude and loyalty to Quisling Pavelich in Zagreb. Pavelich kissed one of the leaders of such a delegation."

The well-known rector of a Bulgarian Orthodox seminary in the capital of Bulgaria wrote an appeal to the bishop of the German Protestant church in Berlin to protest against this Catholic Inquisition. From page 281 the following excerpt from his appeal is quoted:

"It is quite evident that the Roman Catholic Church in Croatia together with the Roman Catholic clergy and Catholic leaders, were spiritual instigators and in some instances actual leaders in these persecutions, all in an effort to enforce the conversion of the Serbian Orthodox people into Catholicism. With the same purpose in mind the State employees of Orthodox faith were warned by printed pamphlets, a copy of which is on file, that in the Croatian State only those might remain who embraced the Catholic faith."

"As early as last summer the Croatian minister of State, Dr. Mile Budak, declared that upon the territory of the Croatian State only two religious denominations would be recognized—Roman Catholic and Mohammedan. The 'Catholic Weekly,' official organ of the Catholic diocese of Sarajevo, approves the methods of the destruction of the Orthodox Church as being 'to the glory

of God' and concludes: 'Today the hour has struck when even we Catholics, now and forever, shall part with the prejudices against the revolutionary methods which serve truth, justice, and honesty. The Catholic Church is the best educator and instigator of such movements.'"

In the same appeal several public statements of *Ustashi* state officials are referred to, such as this one by Dr. Victor Gutic: "Hundreds of thousands were murdered, hundreds of thousands were expelled from Croatian territory, and the remainder will be controlled and converted to Catholicism so that within a decade we shall have in Croatia purely Catholic people."

There is no instance in modern history where there was closer union between church and state than in Croatia. This was because Catholic prelates and priests were *Ustashi* leaders and led in the terroristic campaigns. In a report confirmed by the anti-Communist Yugoslav military headquarters in London the following fact was emphasized (p. 65):

"The Catholic clergy were invariably at the head of the *Ustashi* and in some instances they were active participants in the unspeakable crimes with gun and knife in their hands. They pointed out Serbs for murder and led *Ustashi* hordes. At Mostar, Reverend Leo Petrivic, secretary to the Catholic bishop, Dr. Taol, organized and led the bloody *Ustashi* activities in the villages around Ilie."

Complete Catholic control of the State made it possible to give plausible promises of immunity in exchange for conversion to Roman Catholicism. The report just mentioned, on page 65, goes on to say: "The Roman Catholic clergy intensified their efforts to convert the remaining Serbian populace to Catholicism, promising the people that by such conversion they could save their lives. Thus they succeeded in

converting about 30% of the remaining populace [who escaped murder or exile] to Catholicism."

The dominance of the *Ustashi* government made it possible for the Catholic bishops to lay down the law to them. A joint decree of all the Catholic bishops of Croatia stipulated (p. 274): *"Secular authorities have no right to annul conversions made by the Catholic Church representatives. . . . The Committee of the Croatian Catholic Bishops for Conversions will organize courses for those priests who are to act as instruments in the conversions of the Serbian Orthodox into the Catholic Church."*

LIQUIDATION OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH

The sadistic attacks on the Orthodox people of Croatia were by no means a mere wave of fanaticism. They were carefully and cold-bloodedly planned, with deliberate concentration on the liquidation of Orthodox priests and bishops. Persecution of the Orthodox was a victory both for the Catholic Inquisition and for the Fascist State of Croatia with which the Catholic church had identified itself, for the Orthodox Christians were staunch democrats and haters of Fascism. The fate of the clergy is sharply etched in the above-quoted appeal to Berlin Protestants by the rector of a Bulgarian seminary (p. 279):

"The same fate befell the entire Orthodox clergy. They were ruthlessly murdered or were thrown into prison dungeons or concentration camps, or were driven from the territory after being subjected to terrific tortures and maltreatments. All of the Croatian Serbs within the territory of the Croatian State are at present without their clergy and without anyone to perform pastoral services for them, because all of the Serbian Orthodox bishops and priests were either sim-

ply exterminated in a most ruthless fashion. . . or were thrown into concentration camps, or driven away from their charges. And so the 2,000,000 Orthodox people in the Croatian State have no one to preach them the Gospel."

Several specific cases of Orthodox bishops who were tortured and murdered are given. The following excerpt from page 8 will suffice:

"In these persecutions the leaders of the Serbian Orthodox Church were always first to suffer. The Serbian Bishop Platon of Banja Luka was killed and his body, together with the bodies of several other murdered priests, was thrown into a river and it was some time before they were recovered. The Serbian Archbishop Petar Zimonich of Sarajevo, and Bishop Sava Trlaich of Plasky were imprisoned, mistreated, and tortured beyond endurance. They later died from maltreatment. The Archbishop of Zagreb was first imprisoned and then beaten and tortured in a most inhuman manner. Bishop Irenai of Dalmatia was also imprisoned and later transferred to an Italian concentration camp at Bagne a Ripoli, near the city of Florence. There are numerous other Serbian bishops who have been imprisoned. . ."

In its warfare against heresy the Catholic church is always interested in financial gain as well as the destruction of spiritual freedom. In this persecution of the Orthodox Serbs, even aside from the pillaging of countless valuables and treasures, millions of dollars' worth of Orthodox properties were seized, including untold churches and monasteries. The following instances will serve to show how the Catholic church in Croatia enriched itself by seizing the possessions of the condemned just as it did during the days of the Inquisition:

"The monasteries, several of which

have a great tradition behind them, have been transferred to Roman Catholic religious Orders. Even the patriarchal center Sremski-Karlovci has not been spared. The patriarchal church was sealed after the most valuable treasures were taken away, the patriarchal library was plundered, and the patriarchal palace has been occupied by Catholics." (p. 44.)

"Many of the Orthodox churches were destroyed, others were burned, and still others, including church institutions and their properties were confiscated. . . Many of the Orthodox churches were desecrated. . . a number of them converted into Catholic edifices. . . Fifteen Serbian Orthodox monasteries and churches at Fruska Gora were given to the Catholic monks of the Franciscan order, as was also done with other church properties." (p. 280).

UNDER ORDERS OF THE VATICAN

Just as the Pope in Rome looked on with indifference while the head of the non-Roman Christian church in Abyssinia was brought to Italy in chains, so too did he give his tacit approval to crimes against the Orthodox church in Croatia. Odd conduct for one who pretends to be so concerned about the fate of the Orthodox church in Russia! It is not surprising then to find that the entire hierarchy of Croatia, which takes its orders directly from the Vatican, did not even go through the motions of protesting against the outrages and crimes perpetrated daily under their eyes. So unbearable did this hypocritical silence become that some of the more decent Roman Catholic laymen protested to the hierarchy against their criminal silence. Such is the letter from which the following excerpt is taken—a letter written on February 8, 1942, to the Roman Catholic Archbishop Aloysius Stepinac of Zagreb by a for-

mer minister of the Yugoslav cabinet, Prvislav Grizogno, a Roman Catholic Croat:

"In all these unprecedented crimes, worse than pagan, our Catholic Church has also participated in two ways. First, a large number of priests, clerics, friars, and organized Catholic youth actively participated in all these crimes, but more terrible, even Catholic priests became camp commanders and, as such, ordered or tolerated the horrible tortures, murders and massacres of a baptized people. One Catholic priest slit the throat of an Orthodox Serbian priest. None of this could have been done without the permission of their Bishops, and, since it was done, they should have been brought to the ecclesiastical court and unfrocked. Since this did not happen, then obviously the Bishops gave their consent, by acquiescence at least."

"Friars and nuns carried 'Ustashi' knives in one hand and a cross and prayer-book in the other. The province of Srem is covered with the leaflets of Bishop Akshamovich, which were printed in his own print shop at Djakov. He calls upon the Serbs, through these leaflets, to save their lives and property, recommending the Catholic faith to them. . . In our country not one Bishop has decried the fate of the innocent Christian Serbs who have suffered more than the Jews in Germany." (p. 292).

Such is the indictment of the Roman Catholic church in Croatia. The results of this sadism are best summarized in the words of the book we have been quoting that documents its charges beyond the shadow of a doubt: On page 7 it declares as follows: "*If we were to enumerate all the Serbian victims, we would be confronted with the grim realization that about 700,000 Serbs have been butchered in the so-called 'Free Croatian State' of Quisling Pavelich alone. In addition, we would find many thousands who were forced under pain of death to convert from the Orthodox faith to Roman Catholicism.*"

CONCLUSION

Nothing could illustrate better than this list of horrors the truth of the saying that "Rome never reforms." Nor could a clearer case be made to prove that now as always "the end justifies the means," in the eyes of the power-hungry rulers of the Roman church. The very same horrors were perpetrated by the Catholic church in Poland in forcing the conversion of the Orthodox Ukrainians who had been annexed to Poland in 1918 by the unlawful seizure of land east of the Curzon Line. But in neither case have the facts been brought to the attention of the democratic world because of the air-tight censorship of the world press exercised by Vatican agents. As one reviews these facts, given here in sufficient detail, he cannot but conclude that, since the conduct of the Croats is the result of their 1,000-year old Catholicism, it might have been better if they had remained decent pagans.

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ANSWERS

By JOSEPH ZACCHELLO

PROTESTANTS are often unable to answer satisfactorily the inquiries of their Roman Catholic friends concerning matters vital to the way of salvation. This is especially so regarding the correct interpretation of parts of Scripture texts quoted by Roman Catholics to substantiate what they are taught to believe. Each month, Mr. Zacchello, a former Catholic priest, devotes a page to answering some of the more important questions of this nature. (All Scripture texts quoted are from the approved Roman Catholic or Douay version of the New Testament.)

His answer this month concerns

NEW TESTAMENT TEACHING
VERSUS ROMAN CATHOLIC
TRADITION.

ROMAN CATHOLICS SAY:

The Bible is not a sufficient rule of faith, because it does not contain all that God has revealed. God's revelation is also contained in tradition, that is, in the spoken word of Christ to his apostles, which was not written down by them. The following texts of Scripture prove this:

"There are, however, many other things that Jesus did; but if every one of these should be written, not even the world itself, I think, could hold the books that would have to be written."—John 21:25.

"So then, Brethren, stand firm, and hold the teachings that you have learned, whether by word or by letter of ours."—II Thess. 11:15.

"I had much to write to thee; but I

In Your Christmas Giving
Remember Our Work at
Christ's Mission

do not want to write to thee with pen and ink. But I hope to see thee shortly, and we will speak face to face."—3 John 13:14.

ANSWER:

It must be admitted that Jesus Christ and his apostles said and did many things that are not written in the books of the New Testament. The important fact that we do know, however, is that what was written is sufficient for our salvation. St. John himself, in the preceding chapter quoted above, declares:

"But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name."—John 20:31.

Nor do we deny that what is contained in the New Testament was first taught by word of mouth. But we know the Holy Spirit saw to it that everything necessary to salvation was later written down. There is nothing in the above quotation from St. Paul to contradict this.

Neither do we say that the New Testament contains all the exhortations and disciplinary counsels uttered by Jesus Christ and his apostles, or that any one book or epistle gives all necessary information or doctrine. The third epistle of St. John, from which the above text is quoted as objection to the Protestant side, is very short, and contains only one short chapter. It is only a short note from John to Gaius praising him for his piety and faithfulness and announcing that he was coming to see him and to talk with him face to face. We can correctly imagine that when John met Gaius face to face his conversation with him was chiefly about the things necessary for salvation—things already written in the various books of the New Testament.

Besides the above testimony of John in the 20th chapter of his Gospel that what he had written was to convey what is necessary to believe and "that believing you may have life in His name," Jesus Christ himself assures us that the Scriptures bear witness to him:

"Search the Scriptures, because in them you think that you have life everlasting, and it is they that bear witness to me."—John 5:39.

Jesus Christ also condemned tradition:

"So you have made void the commandment of God by your tradition."—Matt. 15:7.

"Well do you nullify the commandments of God, that you may keep your own tradition."—Matt. 7:13.

St. Paul also says:

"See to it that no one deceives you by philosophy and vain deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elements of the world and not according to Christ."—Col. 2:8.

Roman Catholics try further to press defense of their church's many dogmas that are not found in the New Testament by saying that the church existed before the New Testament was written and therefore *the authority of the New Testament rests upon the authority and infallibility of the church*. But if you ask them how do they prove the authority and infallibility of their church, they will argue in a vicious circle and say, *"By the Bible and tradition."*

The very history of their church should convince Roman Catholics that the Bible alone contains the pure and sufficient teaching of salvation. For it was precisely by supplanting the Bible teaching with man-made doctrines that the Gospel teaching was corrupted and the saving message of salvation denied to future generations.

RUSSIA AND CHRISTIANITY

Ministers, Sunday School Teachers, Educators, and all other Christians will find much enlightenment on Russia and inspiration by reading the thrilling Russian Missionary book, "SENTENCED TO SIBERIA", the best-seller missionary biography of PASTOR BASIL A. MALOF, sometimes called the Martin Luther and John Wesley of Russia, and Founder of the first Russian Protestant Church and of the first Russian Sunday School at St. Petersburg. Born in Russia the son of one of the early pioneer preachers, he was converted at the age of 15, studied theology at Pastors' College in London, and upon graduation with honors was ordained to the ministry of the Gospel in 1907. The Czar having granted



partial religious liberty, he immediately returned to Russia for extensive and most fruitful missionary labors. He preached daily, edited two Christian magazines, published many books, established orphanages, organized the first Russian Sunday School union in the Russian Empire, organized and equipped the first Russian Protestant hospital as a branch of the Imperial Red Cross during the first world war. Such interest arose among the Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic population for the Gospel, that to meet the great need he had to rent weekly eleven large auditoriums in the one city of St. Petersburg, among them two theatres, two concert halls, which as a rule were crowded to capacity by eager members of the State Church. Many entered into these Gospel meetings as Greek Catholics, but went away as born-again Christians. After many of the converts had been received into the church, the building for the first Russian Protestant church was erected, seating 2,000, which was dedicated in 1911.

It is but natural, therefore, that this unique book, his life's story, reads like the continuation of Fox's Book of Martyrs. He preached to great multitudes, up to thirty thousand gathering in an open-air service. Princes and peasants, officials and university students, and the highest aristocracy, among them the Prime Minister's wife, and Countess Tolstoy, wife of the greatest writer of Russia, the Greek Catholic Queen of Greece and her sister, the Grand Duchess of Wurtemberg, came to hear this humble-hearted "sectarian" evangelist. The Queen's private secretary, a naval officer, having listened to his burning message on the absolute need of repentance from all sin, boldly stood up before a thousand people, when the call for repentance was made, and in his full uniform with a sword at his side, with seventy other sinners marched forward to the repentance seat, confessing their sins and accepting Christ as their Saviour. Thus his ministry was accompanied by constant revivals, many thousands being converted from a life of sin to Christ and Godliness. Great opposition arose from Rasputin's "Black Hundred" corrupt State Church party. He was tried in the High Court of the Kremlin in Moscow, sentenced to imprisonment in a fortress, later arrested from his pulpit, sentenced to Siberian exile and finally banished from Russia. Now, as President of the Russian Bible Society, he is negotiating with the Soviet Government about restoring the Bible to the Russian people. His life-story shows his unquenchable vision for Russia as the impending greatest mission field in the Christian era. "Russia does not need clericalism," he says. "Russia needs Christianity." This book should be studied also by young people everywhere, and by students of theological and Bible schools, as an incentive for complete surrender to Christ, and dedication of their lives to the service of God.

The price of this book is only ONE dollar, including postage. Give this book as a good birthday or Christmas present to your friend in the armed forces, to your son and daughter at home, to your pastor, and read it yourself. This book can also be had in Spanish, \$1.00, post free. Enclose your check or money order or \$1 bill. Send your order to: *The Russian Bible Society, Inc., P. O. Box 2709, Washington, D. C.* Ministers desiring a personal visit from Pastor Malof to speak about his experiences and vision for Russia, in their churches, conventions, etc., may write to the same address.

[Advt.]

THE PASSING SHOW

P. J. WHELAN

► A STARTLING ARTICLE entitled "Who Bosses the Philippines?" by Captain X, an American army officer who fought in the Philippines, in the September 15th issue of *The Nation* reveals that all the "scum of reaction"—pre-Pearl Harbor Fascists, pro-Francoists, and reactionaries, together with the most notorious Japanese collaborationists and Falangists—are rising to the top, and threaten to take complete control of the islands again. The Roman Catholic church is also involved. This eye-witness account bluntly declares: *"There is growing dissatisfaction with the Roman Catholic church because of its extensive property holdings and its pro-Franco leanings both before the war and at present."*

► HOSPITAL AUTHORITIES in Switzerland have decided not to employ Catholic doctors "because they are not free by their religion to act in certain medical cases," according to *The Birth Control News*, a British journal edited by Mrs. Marie Stopes.

► CATHOLICS IN ITALY were ordered by the Vatican how to vote in the coming elections, according to the N. Y. *Herald Tribune* of August 28. In a circular sent to all the bishops of Italy, Vatican authorities laid down the following instructions: *"First, all who have a vote are bound to use it; secondly, Catholics may only vote for programs which respect the observance of Divine law and the rights of the Church."*

► DR. KARL HAUSHOFER, Catholic professor at the University of Munich and "father of geopolitics" who gave Hitler his ideas of world conquest, was released from custody by U. S. Army authorities last September 17. Jesuit Father Edmund A. Walsh of Georgetown University has been teaching Haushofer's principles of Geopolitics at the Officers' Command and Training School at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, in Washington, D. C., and elsewhere.

► ABBOT PETER MOEHLER and his fourteen monks were arrested by the Czechoslovakia security police in a monastery at Tepla, according to an AP dispatch from Prague last Sept. 6. It was charged that "the monastery had been a center of Nazi activity for years and that recently persons there kept in close touch with active political groups in Bavaria by courier." The report also stated that "two radio transmitters, two telephones and a quantity of munitions were found," and that the monastery had been occupied for a short time at first by American troops, who evidently saw or suspected nothing in the conduct of the abbot and his monks.

► THE WELL-KNOWN Swedish journalist and BBC radio commentator, Björn Hallström, broadcasting last May 6 over a European network, revealed what he and other journalists from neutral countries had seen at the Nazi Buchenwald concentration camp. Of the 500 Christian prisoners there, he declared, "450 were Jehovah's Witnesses and the remaining 50 were representatives of such sects as Adventists, the Salvation Army, etc." No mention was made of any Roman Catholics being among them.

► IT WAS SURPRISING to read in the N. Y. *Times* of last Sept. 23 that Col. Charles A. Poletti, a Baptist, was made a knight Commander of the Order of St. Gregory by Pope Pius XII on his retirement as U. S. Military Government Commissioner for Lombardy. The Catholic church attacked him when he ran for Governor of New York a few years ago. Now it hopes to make use of him, since he is in power despite its efforts.

► A ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST, James David O'Neill, for more than 30 years the pastor of the Immaculate Conception church at 200 S. Green Bay Road in Chicago, died last August 14 and left an estate worth \$268,000. According to the Chicago *'Sun'* of August 31, his nephew, Charles Brust, administrator, had first reported that his uncle's estate would not exceed \$5,000, but told the judge "he was surprised on opening safe deposit boxes leased by his uncle, to find cash and securities totaling \$268,000."

► **THE ONLY WITNESS** present when Joseph Darnand, hated chieftain of the Vichy Militia, was shot as a traitor to France last October 10, was a Dominican priest, Father Bruckberger, as was noted in a dispatch from Paris to the N. Y. *Herald Tribune* of Oct. 11. This same Father Bruckberger was Darnand's sole witness at his trial when he called Darnand a "hero."

► **CRITICIZING** the Greater Detroit and Wayne County CIO Council for its opposition to the Mead-Aiken Bill (S-717) which would give Federal funds to parochial schools, *The Wage Earner*, organ of the ACTU (Association of Catholic Trade Unionists) argues that although public highways are paid for by public funds, it is your privilege to ride your own private car instead of a public bus. To which the CIO neatly replied: "*The public education highway is the public-school system, and if that is not good enough for you, it is your privilege to build your own private education highway, but why should public funds be given to those who despise and ignore the public-school system?*"

► **THE SPANISH BISHOP** of Orense, in a pastoral letter last September 21, condemned the Potsdam agreements of the Big Three as having "created a new international order with hateful partiality," according to a dispatch from London to the N. Y. *'Times'* of that date. He styled Franco's Spanish State "a bastion of Faith in western Europe."

► **ASSISTED** to the end by a priest with a large crucifix, Papal Count Pierre Laval, French arch-collaborationist, was shot as a traitor to his country at Fresnes prison on October 15.

► **JOSEPH B. CHIFFLEY**, Australia's new Prime Minister, is a Roman Catholic.

► **CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN** Sixtus O'Connor, of Oxford, N. Y., "has said Mass three times in the cell of crafty old Franz von Papen at the request of that ace of Nazi diplomats," according to the N. Y. *'Daily News'* of Oct. 17. The chaplain was reported further as stating: "I have reason to believe Von Papen is a most devoted Catholic, as is Hans Frank." The

latter was Nazi Governor of occupied Poland.

► **THE VATICAN'S CONCORDAT** with Hitler's regime still remains in force, and the chief aim of the discussions at the meeting of all the Roman Catholic bishops of Germany at Fulda last August was to find a way to make the stipulations of this concordat acceptable to the Allied Military Government. According to the *Catholic Register* of Sept. 2, Capt. Dumont F. Kenny, "deputy chief of the education and religious branch of the U. S. group control council," represented the U. S. Government at the Bishops' meeting. Capt. Kenny is a Roman Catholic and member of the Jesuit parish of St. Francis Xavier in New York City.

► **MORE THAN THIRTY** Hollywood movie stars will begin a program of "Rosary broadcasts" weekly for 52 Sundays, beginning next New Year's, to propagandize the saying of the rosary to the Virgin Mary, according to the Catholic *'Register'* of last September 16. The program will be called "Going Her Way." The following movie stars, all Roman Catholic, will take part: Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby, Irene Dunne, Loretta Young, Don Ameche, Ruth Hussey, Lou Costello, Charles Boyer, Margaret O'Brien, Roddy McDowell, Lloyd Nolan, Maureen O'Hara, Joan Leslie, Dick Haymes, June Haver, Jeanne Crain, Jack Haley, Maureen O'Sullivan, James Gleason, Edward and William Gargan, Cesare Romero, and William Bendix.

► **KENTUCKY'S ATTORNEY GENERAL**, Eldon S. Dummit, has handed down a ruling that school children cannot be required to attend courses of religious instruction either in the classroom or outside, according to *Religious News Service*. He added that "Kentucky's constitution prohibits such a requirement," and that "it is the duty of school authorities to devote the entire classroom day to subjects prescribed by the school curriculum."

► **JUDAS**, played by Hans Zwink, is the only one among the actors of the famous Catholic Passion Play at Oberammergau in Bavaria found to be anti-Nazi. All the others such as Alois Lang (Christ), Anni Rutz (the Virgin Mary), Willy Bierling (St. John), are in prison as active members of the Nazi Party.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

The following books have been chosen and are recommended as containing good source material on the aims and activities of the Roman Catholic church today:

DER FUEHRER, by Conrad Heiden, who is recognized as knowing more about the rise of Hitler and Nazism than any objective historian alive. He does not omit the part played by the Vatican and the Catholic hierarchy in bringing Hitler to power. 778 pages. Price\$3.00

THE SPANISH LABYRINTH, by Gerald Brenan; the most authoritative and best documented account of the social, political and religious background of the Spanish civil war. 384 pages. Price\$3.50

CONTEMPORARY ITALY, by Count Carlo Sforza; a storehouse of valuable and fascinating information by a recognized leader of Italian liberalism who was Italy's Minister of Foreign Affairs before Mussolini. Of particular interest are his inside revelations of the Vatican's war-mongering among the nations. 430 pages. Price\$3.50

WHAT TO DO WITH ITALY? by Salvemini-La Piana. The authors of this excellent work are: Professor Gaetano Salvemini, undaunted foe of Fascism and political Catholicism, and Professor George La Piana, ex-Catholic priest, church historian and authority on Canon Law, now professor of history at Harvard. Both are authorities on Italy. 301 pages. Price\$2.75

THE PRIEST, THE WOMAN AND THE CONFESSIONAL, by Father Chiniquy; (New Edition). Price\$1.00

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN LATIN AMERICA? by George P. Howard. This is a "must" book for every minister, every missionary-minded person, every lover of democracy and religious freedom. It contains first-hand information on the Roman Catholic campaign against Protestant missionary work in Latin America. 179 pages. Price\$2.00

SCHOOL AND CHURCH. The American Way, by Conrad Henry Moehlman; an historical approach to the problem of religious instruction in the public schools; a fully-documented defense of the American public school system against the attack by the Roman Catholic Church. 178 pages. Price\$2.50

FREEMASONRY AND ROMAN CATHOLICISM, by H. L. Haywood; an authoritative exposition of the persecution of Freemasonry by the Roman Catholic church. 224 pages. Price\$2.50

ROME STOOPS TO CONQUER, by E. Boyd Barrett, ex-Jesuit priest; a keen analysis of the strategic plan of the Roman Catholic church to win America to its doctrines and practices, 267 pages. Price\$3.00

We have on hand a quantity of the pamphlet "A VITAL CONDITION FOR LASTING PEACE," by Dr. Leopold Mannaberg. Since this item has been included in the new edition of "Behind the Dictators," we do not list it with our other pamphlets. It should serve, however, as an excellent introduction of the Catholic question to your friends, and we would be pleased to mail a copy to any TEN names you send us for only \$1.00

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